IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 1, 3 and 5-7, and add Claims 9-14, to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording head comprising:

a substrate;

a plurality of recording elements for generating ~~the~~ discharge energy for discharging ink droplets of a recording liquid from at least a discharge port, the recording elements forming a recording element row arranged ~~in a row~~ on the substrate;

a plurality of electrical circuit elements for driving the recording elements, the electrical circuit elements forming an electrical circuit element row arranged ~~in a row~~ ~~adjacently~~ adjacent to the recording element row on the substrate;

at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the recording element row;

at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ electrical circuit element protecting section ~~electrically connected with the recording element protecting section~~ for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the electrical circuit element row; ~~and~~

at least a conducting section for electrically connecting the conductive recording element protecting section and the conductive electrical circuit element protecting section to each other; and

an ~~inspection~~ electrode pad adapted to be electrically connected to the ~~recording element protecting section and the electrical circuit element protecting section~~ conducting section.

2. (Original) An ink jet recording head according to claim 1, wherein the recording element protecting section and the electrical circuit element protecting section are an anti-cavitation film.

3. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording apparatus comprising:

an ink jet recording head including a substrate, a plurality of recording elements for generating ~~the~~ discharge energy for discharging ink droplets of a recording liquid from at least a discharge port, the recording elements forming a recording element row arranged ~~in a row~~ on the substrate, a plurality of electrical circuit elements for driving the recording elements, the electrical circuit elements forming an electrical circuit element row arranged ~~in a row adjacently~~ adjacent to the recording element row on the substrate, at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the recording element row, at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ electrical circuit element protecting section ~~electrically connected with the recording element protecting section~~ for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the electrical circuit element row, at least a conducting section for electrically connecting the conductive recording element protecting section and the conductive electrical circuit element protecting section to each other; and an ~~inspection~~ electrode pad adapted to be electrically connected to the ~~recording element protecting section and the electrical circuit element protecting section~~ conducting section; and

electricity supply means for supplying the ink jet recording head with an electrical signal for driving the ink jet recording head.

4. (Original) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the recording element protecting section and the electrical circuit element protecting section are an anti-cavitation film.

5. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording head comprising:

a substrate;

at least a first ink supply port provided on the substrate;

a plurality of recording elements for generating ~~the~~ discharge energy for discharging ink droplets of a recording liquid from at least a discharge port, the recording elements forming a first recording element row arranged ~~in a row~~ on each side of the first ink supply port on the substrate;

a plurality of electrical circuit elements for driving the recording elements, the electrical circuit elements forming a first electrical circuit element row arranged ~~in a row~~ outside the first ink supply port with respect to the first recording element row;

at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ first recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the first recording element row;

at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ first electrical circuit element protecting section electrically connected with the first recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the first electrical circuit element row;

at least a second ink supply port provided on the substrate;

a plurality of recording elements for generating ~~the~~ discharge energy for discharging ink droplets of a recording liquid from at least a discharge port, the recording

elements forming a second recording element row arranged ~~in a row~~ on each side of the second ink supply port on the substrate;

a plurality of electrical circuit elements for driving the recording elements, the electrical circuit elements forming a second electrical circuit element row arranged ~~in a row~~ outside the second ink supply port with respect to the second recording element row;

at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ second recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the second recording element row;

at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ second electrical circuit element protecting section electrically connected with the second recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the second electrical circuit element row;

at least a conducting section for electrically connecting the first electrical circuit element protecting section and the second electrical circuit element protecting section to each other~~; and~~

~~an inspection electrode pad adapted to be electrically connected to the conducting section~~.

6. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording head according to claim 5, wherein the first recording element protecting section, the second recording element protecting section, ~~and~~ the first electrical circuit element protecting section and the second electrical circuit element protecting section are an anti-cavitation film.

7. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording apparatus comprising:

an ink jet recording head including a substrate, at least a first ink supply port provided on the substrate, a plurality of recording elements for generating ~~the~~ discharge energy for discharging ink droplets of a recording liquid from at least a discharge port, the recording elements forming a first recording element row arranged ~~in a row~~ on each side of the first ink supply port, a plurality of electrical circuit elements for driving the recording elements, the electrical circuit elements forming a first electrical circuit element row arranged ~~in a row~~ outside the first ink supply port with respect to the first recording element row, a conductive ~~belt-like~~ first recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the first recording element row, a conductive ~~belt-like~~ first electrical circuit element protecting section electrically connected with the first recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the first electrical circuit element row, at least a second ink supply port provided on the substrate, a plurality of recording elements for generating ~~the~~ discharge energy for discharging ink droplets of a recording liquid from at least a discharge port, the recording elements forming a second recording element row arranged ~~in a row~~ on each side of the second ink supply port on the substrate, a plurality of electrical circuit elements for driving the recording elements, the electrical circuit elements forming a second electrical circuit element row arranged ~~in a row~~ outside the second ink supply port with respect to the second recording element row, at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ second recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part of the second recording element row, at least a conductive ~~belt-like~~ second electrical circuit element protecting section electrically connected with the second recording element protecting section for covering ~~the~~ an upper part

of the second electrical circuit element row, a conducting section for electrically connecting the first electrical circuit element protecting section and the second electrical circuit element protecting section to each other, and an ~~inspection~~ electrode pad adapted to be electrically connected to the conducting section~~; and~~

~~electricity supply means for supplying the ink jet recording head with an electrical signal for driving the ink jet recording head~~.

8. (Original) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the first recording element protecting section, the second recording element protecting section, the first electrical circuit element protecting section and the second electrical circuit element protecting section are an anti-cavitation film.

9. (New) An ink jet recording head according to claim 1, wherein the recording element protecting section is provided along an ink supply port and at a periphery thereof.

10. (New) An ink jet recording head according to claim 1, wherein the electrical circuit element protecting section is provided at an outer periphery of the recording element protecting section.

11. (New) An ink jet recording head according to claim 1, wherein the recording element protecting section is provided along an ink supply port and at a periphery

thereof and the electrical circuit element protecting section is provided at an outer periphery of the recording element protecting section.

12. (New) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the recording element protecting section is provided along an ink supply port and at a periphery thereof.

13. (New) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the electrical circuit element protecting section is provided at an outer periphery of the recording element protecting section.

14. (New) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the electrode pad is provided at a position electrically conductive to the recording element protecting section and the conducting section, other than the positions of the recording element protecting section and conducting section.